A referendum to build a new library building in Wheaton, to meet the growth of the city, was passed, October, 1964.

This brought the Adams Memorial Library Board to the realization that their role as landlord, without fee, to the Wheaton Library would soon be at an end.

The problem of what was to become of the building would be theirs to decide.

The will of Katherine Adams Wells, the last of the family, gave the responsibility of the building to a self-perpetuating board of nine trustees with a trust fund to keep the building in good repair and buy "the reference and other books of lasting worth."

With legal advice, the board met on September 10, 1964, to decide which of the two bids presented would be accepted. A unanimous vote gave the Du Page County Historical Society the right of purchase, to set up a Du Page County Historical Museum in the building.

It was voted that the purchase price and the money gleaned from the trust should be used to set up the Adams Memorial Reference area in the new Wheaton Library, the trust money to continue to replace and purchase new reference and like books, as long as the trust funds were forthcoming.

Thus the gift of a library for the Wheaton people by Mr. J.Q. Adams on 1891 would be perpetuated in the new Wheaton Library to honor this fine Wheaton citizen and his generosity.

Adams Park, Wheaton, Illinois

Drawing by Dru Lamkey

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